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THE GOVERNANCE OF HONGKONG.

THE OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

At the meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council yesterday the correspondence relating to the petition for greater representation of the public on the Executive and Legislative Councils was placed on the table. We have not room for the whole of it, but we give the most important portions of it.

Government House, Hongkong, 28th May, 1916.

Sir,—I have the honour to transmit the enclosed copy of a letter addressed by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., to the Colonial Secretary covering copies of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Pollock and of a petition signed by a number of British residents in this Colony praying for greater representation of the public on the Executive and Legislative Councils, together with the accompanying copy of correspondence between the Colonial Secretary and Mr. Pollock on the subject of certain points in the letter which he has addressed to you. I have not dealt earlier with this matter because I was waiting to learn whether you wished for my comments on these communications sent, as they were, directly to you. The petitioners ask that two additional unofficial members may be added to the Executive Council, one to be elected by the Chamber of Commerce and the other by the Non-official Justices of the Peace, and that any future vacancies on the Council may be filled by election by one of those bodies. No reasons are adduced for this change in the constitution except that the two bodies mentioned have long been recognised as representatives of the public for electoral purposes.

The petitioners also ask that an unofficial majority be created in the Legislative Council by increasing the number of unofficial members from 6 to 10 and that all except Chinese members may be elected, half of them by the Chamber of Commerce and half of them by the Non-official Justices of the Peace.

In support of this alteration in the constitution the only arguments adduced are (a) that official members of the Council are not free to vote according to their convictions and (b) that the unofficial members are in a permanent and hopeless minority because the Governor can command the votes of the official members.

The first is a well-worn but weak argument, for it is obviously impracticable to allow Government officers to vote against measures introduced by the Government.

The second has little real weight. If weighty examples existed of the over-riding of popular opinion by the arbitrary exercise of the official vote they would surely find a place in such a petition as this. No such examples are adduced for the good reason that no such examples can be found.

There is not an Ordinance on the Statute book of the Colony of which it can be said that it was forced through the Council without carefully and patiently consulting the interests affected by the legislation. The history of the legislation affecting sanitation and buildings is one conspicuous example among many of the scrupulous care with which vested interests and public opinion are consulted, sometimes with a tendency to pronounce to overcome opposition by too generous concessions.

Now let us turn to the second question during the past 30 years not involving legislation of which it can be said that the Government forced its will upon an unwilling people. I feel sure that two of the most influential bodies in the Colony, the Chinese Community and the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, would not be slow to acknowledge that the Government is never remiss in consulting them in all questions affecting trade and commerce and the native community.

The principle involved in the prayer of the petitioners so far as it relates to the Legislative Council, has been raised in this Colony before. It is the natural aspiration of Englishmen to govern themselves, and it is an aspiration with which I personally cannot but sympathise.

But I venture to think that the petitioners have scarcely appreciated the special nature of local conditions. To indicate some of these I cannot do better than quote from Lord Ripon's despatch, No. 135 of the 23rd of August, 1884, in answer to a similar petition, in which he wrote:

"To sum up, the petitioners ask nominally that Hongkong should be given self-government, and an elective system. In my opinion the place and its circumstances are wholly unsuited for what is proposed."

"An Imperial Station with great Imperial interests, on the borders of a foreign land, the nucleus of wide reaching British interests in the Far East, must, it appears to me, be kept under Imperial protection and under Imperial control."

"In saying this much I am assuming that the self-government would be worthy of the name, and that the elective system would include all ranks of the community, but this is not what the petition demands. Those who framed it and signed it would, I gather, desire to place the power in the hands of a select few, and to constitute a small oligarchy, restricted by the lines of race. To any such change I am opposed."

It is not at all surprising that the large majority of the inhabitants is more likely to be safeguarded by the Crown Colony system, under which, as far as possible no distinction is made of rank or race, than by representation which would leave the bulk of the population wholly unrepresented.

"I can therefore hold out no hope that Hongkong will cease to be a Crown Colony."

and from the despatch of the late Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, No. 119 of the 20th of May, 1895, in which he stated:—"In his despatch of the 23rd of August, 1884, Lord Ripon stated that he could hold out no hope that Hongkong will cease to be a Crown

Colony. Neither can I hold out any such hope, for I conceive that in the case of Hongkong, Representative Government on whatever form of franchise it might be based, and with whatever supposed safeguards as to the Executive power, would be wholly out of place."

It scarcely seems necessary for me to endorse these weighty pronouncements of eminent Administrators and Statesmen, practicable for applying the principle of election to appointments to a body like the Executive Council. This is a question which has not been previously raised in this Colony, and it does not seem necessary to set out the very obvious reasons for which such a proposal could not be entertained. But I would briefly draw attention to the nature of the electorate to whom the petitioners would confine the election of all the unofficial members of the Executive Council and of eight out of ten of the unofficial majority in the Legislative Council.

The census for 1911 shows that the total population was 438,739, composed of 19,075 non-Chinese and 444,664 Chinese, and that at that time the British male adult civil population numbered 1,840.

From the same census the following figures in respect of the civil population in 1911 are deduced:—

(a) Male adult British subjects of Portuguese race	370
(b) Male adult British subjects of Indian race (exclusive of Gai, Gai, Staff and Watchmen)	357
(c) Male adult British subjects of Chinese race (i.e., Chinese born in Hongkong)	21,000

Note to (c).—Of these it is calculated that 2,000 are men of good education the majority of whom speak English.

It is proposed by the petitioners that the franchise should be given to the members of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce who number 150 composed as follows:—

French	105 members
Dutch	3
American	4
Japanese	6
Chinese	3
British Indian	15
Portuguese	4
Swedish	1
Norwegian	1
Belgian	1
Russian	2

150 members.

(Note:—Of these about 25 are not even British subjects; and to the Un-official Justices of the Peace who are all British subjects but whose number is limited to 120.)

6. I will turn now to the covering letter which Mr. Pollock has addressed to you.

I do not know how far Mr. Pollock represents in this letter the view of the signatories of the petition. But it is obvious that he can have no authority for claiming that in signing the petition these gentlemen committed themselves to anything more than their individual and personal opinions; and I am quite sure that they themselves would not claim more than this. Nobody knows better than the learned Council that a Director or a whole Board of Directors can only speak for a public company after obtaining the approval of a meeting of shareholders held in pursuance of a notice which has stated that such approval would be asked for. The signatures to the petition do not therefore in any way represent the long list of Commercial and Industrial Companies set out in the letter.

On the other hand, it is remarkable that two out of the four European unofficial members of the Legislative Council have not signed the petition; that the two Chinese unofficial members who represent one of the largest commercial interests in the Colony—that of the Chinese community—declined the overtures made to them; as I am assured, on two occasions with a view to obtaining their and other Chinese signatures; that the managers of the two greater European mercantile interests in the Colony—the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the firm of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire—have declined to lend even their personal support to the petition; that Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., unofficial member of the Executive Council, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., who has been appointed to be an unofficial member of that Council since the petition was launched, have likewise refrained from supporting it; and finally that the most important and influential public body in the Colony, the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, have not signed the petition notwithstanding the fact that it is upon its shoulders that the petitioners would lay the responsibility of electing in the future two unofficial members of the Executive and four unofficial members of the Legislative Council.

7. In this letter as in the petition itself there is a striking absence of any adequate reason for a violent constitutional change. The instances given of the alleged constant employment of the official vote to "vote down" the unofficial members are so inept that their citation might be adduced as an argument to prove the absence of any legitimate grievance.

I attach excerpts from Hansard of all that passed in the Legislative Council concerning the vote in Finance Committee in connection with the Law Courts. The Chairman of that Committee was of opinion, and I agree with it, that no useful purpose would be served by further discussing the matter in the face of the circumstances described in my previous article in the Council; and it is to be noted that although at the meeting of the Finance Committee were brought up for confirmation, I alluded to the vote no question was raised upon it by unofficial members.

8. With regard to the question of appointing a Commission to enquire into the organisation of the Nursing Staff at the Government Civil Hospital, I would invite your perusal of the enclosed extract from Hansard which gives an accurate account of the discussion in the Legislative Council on this subject. In intimating to the Council that I was unable to accept the motion of Mr. Pollock for the appointment of a Commission, I explained that I had asked your permission to increase the Nursing

Staff by 3 Sisters, and in the circumstances I put it to the Council that a Commission of Enquiry was not necessary. The mover of the resolution preferred to ask for a division, on which it is true that the unofficial members voted on one side and the official members and the General Officer Commanding on the other. But I think any impartial person would come to the conclusion that in this matter the Government did not treat the unofficial members in an adverse and hostile spirit, instead of taking them into their counsel and co-operation, to use Mr. Pollock's words. Moreover, I am convinced that the other unofficial members did not consider that they were being so treated. I append a memorandum in which I have explained in detail the circumstances under which vacancies have occurred in the Nursing Staff and the steps taken to fill them.

I do not think that more effective steps could have been taken to cope with an abnormal situation created by the war. It is true that leave cannot now be granted to two Sisters who have just become due for it under the new system of leave after a instead of 5 years' service. But the Matron returned in March on a year's leave and one Sister is absent on a year's leave. One of the Sisters now due for leave was given at her own request 4 months' leave to Europe at the end of 1914, but eventually she did not take the leave, though it was pointed out that it was desirable that she should take the leave when it was convenient to the Government.

Finally, I may mention that in February last the two Sisters now due for leave were offered short leave of 2 months each to visit Japan during the current year. They refused the offer.

9. Mr. Pollock makes two very important suggestions in his covering letter which are not mentioned in the petition. One, that the extremely limited franchise advocated by the petitioners should be discarded for one consisting of Special and Common Jurors, with certain additions. The other, that to the ten unofficial members of the Legislative Council asked for by the petitioners there should be added 2 nominated Chinese members. I refrain from comment upon these suggestions, as I have no means of knowing whether they represent the views of any responsible person or persons prepared to submit such changes for your consideration.

Nor do I propose to criticise the articles from the local and from the Shanghai Press since they contain no point not covered by the fundamental objections to any form of self-government in this Colony.

10. In paragraph 8 of his letter Mr. Pollock hazards the opinion that the Government sent to Press some of the correspondence concerning the petition of 1894 "in the hope that they would adversely affect the signing of the petition." The Government had no such unworthy motive. In asking the Press to publish the correspondence it acted merely on a suggestion made by Mr. H. W. Looker, the head of the leading firm of solicitors in Hongkong, who was no doubt actuated by the sound principle that it is wise for a man to hear both sides of a question before arriving at a decision.

11. I enclose copy of the questions put by Mr. Pollock at the meeting of the Legislative Council to which he refers in paragraph 5 of his letter, and of my answer thereto. I do not consider that there is any weight in the argument that an increase in the unofficial element in the Executive and Legislative Councils is necessary for the purpose of dealing with trade and shipping problems which may arise in anticipation of the closing of the war.

The Mercantile Community has ample means through the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce and otherwise of making any suggestions they desire on questions which must obviously be dealt with by His Majesty's Government on lines of Imperial policy and cannot be left to the Legislature of a Crown Colony. I have, etc.

The Rt. Hon. Andrew Bonar Law, M.P., etc.

F. H. MAY, Governor, etc.

Price's Building, Hongkong, 9th March, 1916.

Sir,—I beg leave to inform H.E. the Governor that I have this day posted to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies the petition for greater unofficial representation on the Councils of this Colony and a copy of the signatures thereto, together with a covering letter and the inclosures thereto; and I now inclose similar documents for the information of His Excellency, with the exception that I am sending herewith the original signatures to the petition instead of a copy thereof.

In conclusion I would most respectfully draw the attention of His Excellency the Governor to paragraph 10 of the said covering letter, and I now specially appeal to him that, in justice and fairness to the petitioners and their cause, I may be furnished with copies of all despatches and of all inclosures thereto which are sent by His Excellency the Governor or by the Hongkong Government to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies with reference to or in any way connected with the above petition. I am, etc.

H. E. POLLOCK, The Hon. Colonial Secretary.

[ENCLOSURE 2.]

Hongkong, 9th March, 1916.

To the Rt. Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Sir,—I am forwarding to you a petition from the British residents in this Colony for greater unofficial representation on the Executive and Legislative Councils. I would ask leave to make some observations in this covering letter, by way partly of explanation and partly of argument.

2. In the first place I would point out that this petition has been signed by persons, (of whom about one dozen are Portuguese and British Indians, who as hereafter stated in paragraph 6, were not intended to sign) whereas the 1894 petition for greater representation, which is hereafter referred to, though open to signature by persons of every nationality, was signed by 333 only, of whom 284 were British, 10 Anglo-Chinese, 2 Americans, 4 Portuguese, and 47 British Indians.

(Continued on page 6.)

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Flats specially designed to accommodate three

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Cure the worst cough

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SCENE BETWEEN GOVERNOR AND HON. MR. H. E. POLLOCK.

COUNCIL PREMATURELY CLOSED.

THE GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL.

HONGKONG'S WAR LOAN.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held yesterday at the Council Chamber.

The following were present:—
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FRANCIS HENRY MAY, K.C.M.G.;
HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL F. VENTRIS (General Officer Commanding Troops in China);
HON. MR. CLAUD SEVERN (Colonial Secretary);
HON. MR. J. H. KEMP (Attorney-General);
HON. MR. E. D. C. WOLFE (Colonial Treasurer);
HON. MR. E. B. HALLIFAX (Secretary for Chinese Affairs);
HON. MR. W. CHATMAN, C.M.G. (Director of Public Works);
HON. MR. C. McI. MESSER (Captain Superintendent of Police);
HON. MR. WUI YUK, C.M.G.;
HON. MR. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.;
HON. MR. E. SHELLETT;
HON. MR. D. LANDALE;
HON. MR. P. H. HOLYDAY;
MR. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

HONOUR FOR MR. NG FUK SHAN.

HIS EXCELLENCY, before proceeding with the agenda, addressed Mr. Ng Fuk Shan, formerly chief accountant in the Police Department, as follows:—

I have the honour to inform you that His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve of your appointment to be a Companion of the Imperial Service Order, and I have now very much pleasure to hand you the badge of the Order and I will presently ask the Clerk of the Council to read His Majesty's Warrant. It affords me peculiar pleasure to perform this duty, because I am not unmindful of the many valuable services which you rendered to me personally during the nine years and when you acted first as clerk and then as chief clerk and accountant of that department. Those nine years are a short period of your total services to this Colony. You joined the service in 1874 as clerk at the Magistracy and you were afterwards transferred to the Police Department, and before you retired you completed no less than 41 years' service. I know that I voice the wishes of the whole Civil Service when I say that they and I most sincerely pray that you will long be spared to enjoy the decorations which you have now received.

The Clerk of the Council then read the Warrant, and the badge of the Order was presented to Mr. Ng Fuk Shan, who replied:—I thank you.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

PAPERS.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table the following papers:—Correspondence relating to the petition for greater representation of the public on the Executive and Legislative Council; report of the Director of Public Works for the year 1915; correspondence relating to the Kowloon Bay reclamation scheme; quarterly return of excesses on sub-heads met by savings under heads of expenditure.

FINANCE.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table report of meeting of the Finance Committee held on August 3rd (No. 6), and moved that it be adopted.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and this was agreed to.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table Financial Minutes Nos. 20 to 29, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

MOORINGS IN VICTORIA HARBOUR.

Regarding Financial Minute 27, recommending a vote of \$35,000 for the raising, renewing and re-arrangement of moorings in Victoria Harbour.

HIS EXCELLENCY said:—With regard to Financial Minute No. 27 I would like to say a few words. The sums asked for are required to complete the payments for the purchase of the buoys and moorings in Victoria Harbour and for raising and renewing some of them. Honourable Members will remember that I addressed the Secretary of State on this subject in August, 1914, and received his approval of the scheme on the 6th October, 1914. The correspondence is printed in Sessional Paper No. 17 of 1914. Owing to financial reasons the carrying out of the scheme was postponed during the first half of last year, but in October last I was able to report to the Secretary of State that the revenue receipts were so satisfactory that I had sanctioned the carrying into effect of a portion of the scheme involving the purchase of twenty C class buoys at a cost of \$35,000, and the relaying of some of them in the coal and rice unchangers at a cost of \$5,000. A sum of \$140,000 was also provided in the estimates of the current year for the purchase of further buoys and moorings and a sum of \$10,000 for relaying some of them. The scheme has now been satisfactorily completed at a total cost of \$252,437. With this sum 45 moorings have been purchased as compared with an estimate of \$250,000 for 40 moorings. Great credit is due to the Acting Harbour Master (Commander Beckwith) and the Acting Assistant Harbour Master (the late Lieutenant Dawley) for this successful result, but I would remind you that the suggestion to acquire the moorings was first made by Commander Basil Taylor in the year 1902. The sum of \$30,000 now asked for is to complete the sum of \$252,437 referred to and to provide a sum of \$2,539, which will be used, in addition to the \$5,000 for other charges, to complete the work of raising and renewing moorings.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and this was agreed to.

HON. MR. POLLOCK, K.C., AND THE GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL.

The Hon. Mr. E. H. POLLOCK, K.C., asked the following questions:—

1.—With reference to the new allocation of Sisters in A Block of the Government Civil Hospital, which was made by His Excellency the Governor at the last meeting of Council on the 3rd August, will the Government answer the following questions, namely:—

(i).—Did not Sister Kelsey, pursuant to permission granted prior to the said Meeting of Council, leave this Colony on long leave, on the 9th August?

(ii).—Have not the services of one of the Private Nurses been requisitioned for private nursing, so as to render her unavailable for Hospital work? During what dates between the 3rd August and the date of these Questions (21st August), have the services of such Private Nurse been required for private nursing?

(iii).—On what dates between the last Meeting of Council (3rd August) and the date of these Questions (21st August) have there been two Sisters on duty in the morning in A Block, namely, one Sister on each floor?

(iv).—On what dates between the said dates has there been a Sister on duty, attending to the operating theatre exclusively?

(v).—Is not Sister Gorham, pursuant to permission granted to her prior to the said Meeting of Council, due to go away from the Colony on long leave on the 30th August, 1916?

(vi).—When will Sister Sloan complete her present current period of 4 years' service?

(vii).—Have the Government secured the services of any, and if so, what Sister or Nurses since the last Meeting of Council?

(viii).—Has Sister Jacobs resigned from the Government Hospitals Service in this Colony?

2.—With reference to the re-arrangement of the Staff in B Block of the Government Civil Hospital, which was announced at the said Meeting of Council, under which re-arrangement the nursing of patients in B Block is left entirely to Probationers and Japanese Nurses, will the Government state the respective lengths of Service of the Probationers who are left in charge of B Block? And will the Government also state whether such Japanese Nurses, and if so, how many of them possess a sufficient knowledge of English, written as well as spoken, to render them independent of the aid of an Interpreter into English, in the discharge of their duties?

3.—Are the Japanese Nurses in charge of the wards in B Block or are the Probationers in charge of such wards?

4.—Was not the stock of drugs and disinfectants kept in store at the Government Civil Hospital considerably reduced by the present Principal Civil Medical Officer before the war?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY replied as follows:—

1.—(a).—Yes.

(b).—One of the private Nursing Sisters went out to a case on 3rd August and remained with the case until the 12th September. The other private Sister was available for hospital work.

(c).—From August 15th to 21st.

(d).—From August 15th to 21st.

(e).—Yes. Sister Gorham was granted leave to go as soon as she desired to do so and she went on the 8th September.

(f).—Sister Sloan completes four years' resident service on the 13th December. She does not know at present whether she will go in December or later.

(g).—The following Nursing Staff have been engaged since 3rd August:—

(h).—Mrs. McEwen was taken on as a temporary maternity nurse on the 21st August. She originally applied to be taken on the Staff on the 28th July, 1916, saying that she could not join before about 25th August.

(i).—Mrs. Birnie was taken on on the 18th August as a temporary sister. She applied on the 6th August. She resigned on the 20th September.

(j).—Mrs. Churchill was taken on on the 8th September as a temporary sister. The question of her service was first raised about the 15th August.

(k).—Miss Halley joined as a temporary sister on the 18th September. She applied from Weihaiwei on 31st July.

(l).—Mrs. Fraser joined on the 2nd October as a temporary maternity nurse.

(m).—Miss Jacobs was transferred by the Colonial Office to the Federated Malay States while on leave.

(n).—Two Japanese Staff Nurses joined on the 6th September.

(o).—Miss Jacobs was transferred by the Colonial Office to the Federated Malay States while on leave.

2.—Probationer Nurse Smith appointed 1st November, 1915. Probationer Nurse Roberts on the 12th November, 1915, and Probationer Nurse Meadows on the 4th April, 1916. As to the knowledge of English possessed by the Japanese Nurses the Superintendent writes as follows:—All of them possess quite a fair knowledge of written English and are able to do so intelligently. Nurses Mishima, Sakamoto, and Tsuchimoto understand spoken English quite well, but the other two not quite so well. They all have some difficulty in reading the written language. At present they do require some amount of interpreting, but I have no doubt they will improve with daily practice in hearing and in speaking the language. Under date of the 8th September the Matron reported as follows:—I find they are improving daily and the nursing is excellent. I am quite satisfied with their progress. The last two arrivals are very good in-

deed and speak English quite well, they both appear to be well-trained nurses. Dr. Moore expressed his opinion to me that the nursing has been done quite satisfactorily in B Block by these nurses.

As regards the nursing generally in B Block. Under date of 20th September the Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital reported as follows:—I have no adverse criticism to make on the work of Japanese Staff Nurses and Probationer Nurses. I know of no instance in which patients have not been properly nursed. Under date of 21st September Dr. G. E. Aubrey, Honorary Visiting Physician to the Government Civil Hospital, reported as follows:—

Regarding the Japanese Nurses they are very conscientious over their work and learn quickly. When they first arrived they apparently understood but little English, but they already understand what is said to them and I can understand them. They have evidently been well and fully trained. At the present time I think B Block has as many Nurses and as good ones as any hospital I know of.

As to the question of who is in charge of the Nursing in B Block the Japanese staff nurses and not the probationers are in charge.

3.—The expenditure in the years 1907-1915, inclusive, has been as follows:—1907, \$9,966; 1908, \$11,549; 1909, \$11,123; 1910, \$11,363; 1911, \$11,682; 1912, \$10,130; 1913, \$9,065; 1914, \$10,147; 1915, \$9,714.

The present Principal Civil Medical Officer arrived in the Colony on the 15th January, 1913, after the indents for 1913 had been forwarded to the Crown Agents.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—Arising out of the answers just given, Sir, I wish to put two more questions. The first is with regard to the answer to clause 8 of question 1. I should like to ask whether it is not a fact that Sister Jacobs was transferred to the Federated Malay States at her own express request.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—The answer is in the affirmative.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—With regard to the answer to question 3 I would beg leave to point out that there has been no answer given to that question at all. We have been inundated with a lot of figures, but the question I put was a very simple one—Was not the stock of drugs and disinfectants kept in store at the Government Civil Hospital considerably reduced by the present Principal Civil Medical Officer before the war?

HIS EXCELLENCY.—You will see by the figures that the expenditure in 1914 was rather greater than in 1913, and in 1913 the expenditure was less. I should like to inform the hon. member that the Principal Civil Medical Officer was not responsible for the indents for the year 1913, as he only arrived here early in 1915.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—The stores must be kept, Sir. That is absolutely no answer to the question at all. It does not follow that because a sum of money is voted that it is used. I want an answer, Sir.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—This is actual expenditure, it is not a vote.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—Does your Excellency mean that all these sums have been expended?

HIS EXCELLENCY.—All these sums down here have been spent on stores, drugs and disinfectants.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I should like an answer to my question, a definite answer to my question, whether the expenditure was not considerably reduced before the war. I want an answer and I shall repeat the question until I get an answer.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—What the hon. member wants to infer by the question is that the Principal Civil Medical Officer has unduly reduced the supply of stores, drugs and disinfectants. My reply to that is that he has not done so. I am perfectly satisfied that the hospital has been well supplied with all these articles.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I am not satisfied with that reply, with all due deference to your Excellency, who may not be aware of what has happened. I should like an answer given on the responsibility of the Principal Civil Medical Officer.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—I have given you a reply.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I do not want any assurance from your Excellency, because your Excellency may not be quite aware of what has taken place.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—I am very fully aware.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I want a direct answer to the question and I want it on the responsibility of the Principal Civil Medical Officer. It is very chivalrous of your Excellency to come forward in this way, but I want a definite reply to my question.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—I will give you a reply at the next meeting of the Council, and now may I ask the hon. member one or two questions arising out of my questions?

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I am not here to be asked questions arising out of my questions, and I venture to say that your Excellency, as President of the Council, is entirely out of order.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—I should like an elucidation. The hon. member comes here meeting after meeting and he inundates the Government with very voluminous questions which take a great deal of time in the answering. Now he has asked, for instance, to-day, questions about the knowledge of English of the Japanese nurses. I am rather curious to know if the hon. member has ever seen these nurses or ever spoken to them, or whether, in fact, the hon. member has ever been inside the walls of the Civil Hospital during the current year. If not, how does he come to question their knowledge of English?

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I have no intention, Sir, of replying to that question, and I have no intention of being catechized as to my sources of information. I say again that I think your Excellency is absolutely and entirely out of order. I may also say that I regard the action of your Excellency as being in extremely bad taste.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—I rise to a point of order. The hon. member ought not to use words like that.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I will substitute the words "extremely bad taste" for an expression which has a Parliamentary equivalent. I used the words in a Parliamentary sense. I say, Sir, that it is very wrong for your Excellency to suggest that I am always worrying the

Government unnecessarily with questions.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—I have not suggested any such thing.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—Yes, you have, Sir. You have suggested it now, and you suggested it at a previous meeting of the Council. I think it is very uncalled for. I should have thought we had got beyond that, and I think that I should have resented the imputation you made. With regard to the trouble caused by me, as you said, among Government officials, I can assure your Excellency that I am perfectly certain that I myself have been put to a great deal more trouble in bringing matters forward here in an endeavour to have things put right at the Government Civil Hospital. Your Excellency has altogether reconstructed the staff very recently, and has assured the Council that there is nothing wrong, substantially nothing wrong, and nothing requiring improvement. It has been implied that I was only a pestiferous fellow, putting questions quite unnecessarily. Sir, I very much resent that indictment, and I think, Sir, it is very discreditable that a member of the Council who is honestly trying to do his best for the public should be treated in this way when he puts questions to the Government, and I cannot conceive, Sir, that the Prime Minister of Great Britain himself would ever dare to get up in the House of Commons and say to a member, "Why are all these questions put? We do not like being worried with these questions, which give a lot of trouble to the Government."

HIS EXCELLENCY.—The hon. member has imputed to me words I never uttered. I asked the hon. member a simple question and he has given me no answer. Very well, let it stand at that.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I did not do so, Sir. Your Excellency may have thought so, and it is very unfortunate, I—

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I rise to a point of order. His Excellency the President is on his legs and—

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—He is not, and I am sorry the Colonial Secretary is so short-sighted. I wish to say this. I have imputed to you, Sir, nothing you have not said. The previous history of Hansard will show what your Excellency said on the subject.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—I said the questions gave the Government officials a great deal of trouble, and so they do.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—You inferred that they caused a lot of unjustifiable trouble.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—I did not say such thing. Hon. Mr. Pollock. Well, if it does not mean that I do not know what it does mean. With regard to my sources of information, I think it most improper that your Excellency should try and enquire as to my sources of information.

HIS EXCELLENCY.—I did not ask you for your sources of information. I asked you if you had even seen or spoken to the Japanese nurses.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—What I said was—HIS EXCELLENCY.—Council stands adjourned until this day week. There will be a Finance Meeting after this meeting. His Excellency then left the Council Chamber.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee followed, the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding. The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of nineteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$19,500) in aid of the following votes:—

PUBLIC WORKS, RECURRENT.

Hongkong, Miscellaneous:—Typhoon and rainstorm damages \$15,000

Kowloon, Miscellaneous:—Typhoon and rainstorm damages 3,000

New Territories, Miscellaneous:—Typhoon and rainstorm damages—Mainland and Islands in Northern District 1,500

Total \$19,500

The vote was agreed to.

HARBOUR EXPENDITURE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) in aid of the following votes:—

HAIRBOUR MASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Other charges, raising and renewing moorings, of ocean steamship 5,000

Special expenditure, acquisition and re-arrangement of moorings in Victoria Harbour 30,000

Total \$35,000

The CHAIRMAN.—His Excellency the Governor has already explained the reasons for these votes.

HON. MR. POLLOCK.—I ask for a division. Unofficial members of the Council persistently opposed this scheme, which was forced on them by the Government. Therefore, I think the extra votes should be refused. We have always opposed this. On a division being taken, the votes were agreed to, only the Hon. Mr. Pollock voting against them.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

TROUSERS.

Charged with the theft of three pairs of trousers from the On Lee, a Chinese was sentenced to one month's hard labour and four hours' stocks. The man said he wanted to get away from the Colony, and thought that the trousers would assist him to do so.

THE GOOD "FRIEND."

For being in unlawful possession of a quantity of vegetables, a Chinese was sentenced to one month and four hours' stocks. The man's excuse was that he had no food, and the vegetables were given him by a friend.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. REST OF COLONY.

The above match is to be played on H.K.C.C. ground on Monday next, commencing at 10.30 a.m. The following will represent H.K.C.C.:—T. E. Pearce (Capt.), C. Bewick, R. Kennedy, M. M. H. Taylor, P. Syme Thomson, R. P. Thurstold, M. Wright and A. N. Other.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED:

NEW AUTUMN STOCKS

LINCOLN & BENNETT'S

CELEBRATED

FELT AND STRAW HATS

NEW SHAPES

IN
SOFT FELT
HATS

\$7.50 each.

NEW SHAPES

IN
STRAW
HATS;

From \$2.75 each.



GREY

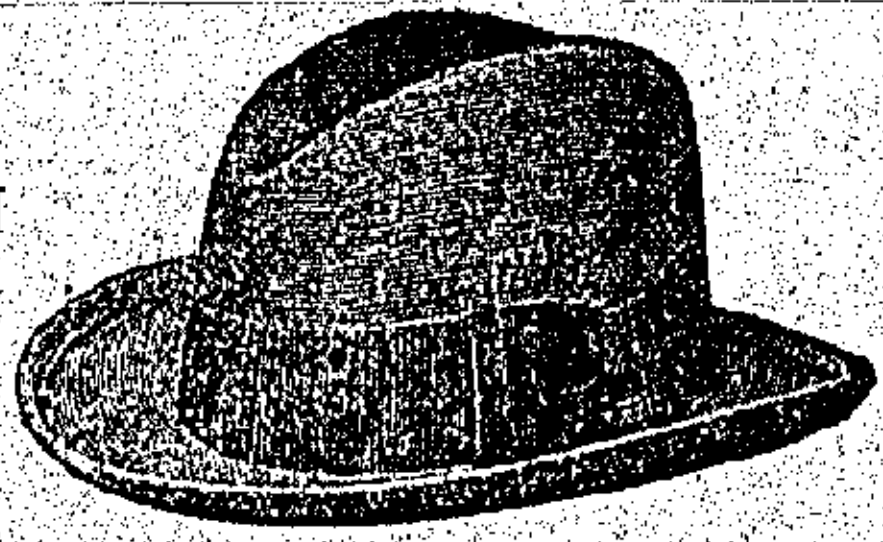
DOUBLE TERRY
HATS

\$11.50 each.

TWEED CAPS

NEW TWEED
HATS

\$4.00 each.



ALL OUR FELT HATS ARE FITTED WITH SWEAT PROOF BANDS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

DRINK
"BULL DOG" LAGER BEER.SUPERIOR TO ANY GERMAN LAGER BEER EVER BREWED.
BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

Brewed in Great Britain.

Bottled by British Labour.

OBTAINABLE AT:—

PRICES DUTY PAID.

Wing On Co., Ltd.

QUARTS—\$20.00 per case

Sincere Co., Ltd.

of 4 dozen.

Sun Co., Ltd.

or \$5.10 per dozen.

Cheong Tai

Nam Hing Loong.

PINTS—\$26.50 per case

Ty Sing

of 8 dozen.

Sang Tai

Kwan Tye

or \$3.40 per dozen.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Stocked by

Admitted to be the Best

THE HONGKONG HOTEL

Lager Beer brewed.



FRESH STOCKS JUST ARRIVED.

[1204-2]

Wm. Powell Ltd

TELEPHONE 346

NOW SHOWING

Glyn's Hand
made Hats

Old English make

NEW STRAWS "LIGHT IN WEIGHT"
and fitted with the famous Bon-Ton fitting. The acme of comfort.

SEE WINDOW.

[1077]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

TO LET—CENTRAL.
FURNISHED FLAT, 4 Rooms, with
Bathroom, Kitchen and Bathrooms, for
12 months.
Apply—Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1225]

TO LET.
FOR two Gentlemen, ONE LARGE
FRONT ROOM with Large Verandah,
in good locality, upper level, with board.
Apply—
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1226]

LOST.
FOX TERRIER, smooth haired, small
stout build. Reward.
A. M. W.
c/o "Daily Press."
Hongkong, 6th October, 1916. [1230]

**FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION
OF HONGKONG.**

BANK HOLIDAY.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all
BANKING BUSINESS OFFICES will
be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public
Business on MONDAY, the 9th October, 1916.
By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 6th October, 1916. [1227]

**MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION
OF HONGKONG.**

BANK HOLIDAY.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all
MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES will
be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public
Business on MONDAY, the 9th
October, 1916.
By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 6th October, 1916. [1228]

MAGISTRACY.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a
MEETING of the LICENSING
BOARD will be held in the Council Chamber
on FRIDAY, the 27th day of October,
1916, at 12.15 P.M., for the purpose of
considering applications for Publicans
Licences, Restaurant Adjunct Licences and
Hotel Keepers' Adjunct Licences for the year
1916-1917 under the Liquor Consolidation
Ordinance, 1911.
Forms of applications may be obtained at
the Magistracy.
All applications must be forwarded to the
Magistracy on or before Monday, the 14th
day of October, 1916, and must be
accompanied by a deposit of Four Dollars.
Applicants for transfers or new licences
and persons objecting to such applications,
must appear in person.
R. A. C. NORTH,
Secretary to the Licensing Board.
Hongkong, 6th October, 1916. [1229]

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.
"S. EQUADOR"
FROM SAN FRANCISCO VIA HONOLULU,
JAPAN PORT, SHANGHAI AND
MANILA.
THE above-mentioned Steamer having
arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby
notified to send in their Bills of Lading for
consignment, and to take immediate
delivery of Cargo from alongside.
Cargo remaining undelivered on SATUR-
DAY, October 6th, at 5 P.M., will be landed at
Consignees' risk and expense, and delivery
must then be taken from the Company's
Godown. Storage charges will be assessed on
all cargo remaining undelivered on FRIDAY,
October 13th, at 5 P.M.
No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.
No Claims will be recognized after the Goods
have left the Steamer or Godown.
All damaged and damaged Cargo will be
landed into the Company's Godown, where they
will be examined on October 13th, at 10 A.M.
No Claims will be recognized if filed after
November 6th, 1916.
R. C. MORTON,
General Agent.
Hongkong, 6th October, 1916. [1235]

BANK HOLIDAY.
IN accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of
1915 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be
CLOSED for the Transaction of Public
Business on MONDAY, the 9th instant.
Hongkong, 6th October, 1916. [1222]

NOTICE TO MARINERS.
"HAINAN HEAD" BUOY is reported
out of position and is now situated
about one mile East of its charted position on
the North-West Edge of Hainan Bank.
G. W. BECKWITH,
Commander, R.N.
Harbour Department,
Hongkong, 2nd October, 1916. [1216]

**COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.**
AS from 1st October, 1916, the Branch
Office of the above Company will be
at No. 2, QUEEN'S BUILDING (Second
Floor), No. 1, Lee House Street.
By Order,
E. LESTER ARNOLD,
Local Manager.
Hongkong, 20th September, 1916. [1227]

**CHINA EXPORT-IMPORT AND BANK
COMPAGNIE.**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any
Persons or Firms having Claims
against the Hongkong Branch of the CHINA
EXPORT-IMPORT AND BANK COMPAGNIE
are required to file same with the Liquidators
on or before 31st October, 1916, after which
date no claim will be recognized.
BRADLEY & CO., LTD.,
Liquidators.
[1208]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

WAR CHARITIES.

"OUR DAY."

AN ENTERTAINMENT in aid

of the Joint Fund of "Our Day,"
October 19th, which is to be devoted
throughout the Empire to raising
money for the BRITISH RED CROSS
SOCIETY and the Order of St. JOHN
OF JERUSALEM, has been arranged
by the

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE
AT THE
VICTORIA THEATRE
(by kind permission of the Management),
on
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH,
AT 9 P.M.

Under the Distinguished Patronage of
H.E. Sir HENRY MAY, K.C.M.G.
H.E. General VENTRIS,
Commander SANDERMAN, R.N.

The proceeds will be added to those
obtained at the Fete to be held on
"OUR DAY," OCTOBER 19TH.

The following Local Ladies and Gentlemen
have kindly consented to appear:—

Mrs. AUBREY, Mr. F. AUSTIN,
Mrs. HILL, Mr. E. ABNEY,
Mrs. MAITLAND, Mr. G. C. BURNETT,
Miss GORDON, Mr. MURIEL,
Miss M. GORDON, Mr. RELPH,
Miss MARY HYDE, Mr. SHIRVINGTON,
Miss DIONE MAY, Mr. PERCIVAL D.
WILSON,
Mr. DENMAN FULLER.

Accompanists—Mrs. AUSTIN and Messrs.
E. J. CHAPMAN and
G. GRIMBLE.

ORCHESTRA—Police Reserve (by courtesy
of Mr. JENKIN, D.S.P.R.).
Stage Manager—Lieut. R. L. BRIDGES,
R.N.R., H.M.S. "VENUS."

Commence at 9.20 P.M. Sharp.

ADMISSION:
DRESS CIRCLE ... \$3.00
STALLS ... \$2.00
PIT ... \$1.00

Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform Half-Price.

BOOKING AT ANDERSON'S.
[1230]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.
THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of
Members will be held on SATURDAY,
the 7th October, 1916, at 12 o'clock Noon, at
the Offices of the Hongkong Jockey Club,
on the ground floor of the Hongkong Club
ANNEX, Charter Road.
By Order,
T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of Course.
Hongkong, 22nd September, 1916. [1175]

8% FRENCH GOVERNMENT LOAN 1916
Price of Issue Frs. 87.50.

SUBSCRIPTION LISTS will be OPEN
on the 5th October, and Close on the
25th of the same month.
The Bonds are issued in France, in
multiples of Frs. 100.00 and upwards.
Bills and bonds of the "National Defense"
bought before the 1st October, 1916, are
accepted in payment.
Applications will be received by the Hong-
kong Branch of the Banque de l'Indo-Chine
from date.
Hongkong, 3rd September, 1916. [1195]

ULDERUP & SCHLUTER.
IN LIQUIDATION
CREDITORS are required to send in
their claims to the Undersigned on or
before TUESDAY, the 21st October, 1916.
Dated the 27th September, 1916.
W. G. HUMPHREYS & CO.,
No. 16, Queen's Road Central,
Liquidators. [1188]

NOTICE.
ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian
desiring to leave the Colony should apply
in writing for permission to do so to the Captain
SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, at least
48 hours before the intended hour of departure,
giving name, nationality, age, sex, height and
complexion of the applicant, and stating the
name of the steamer or other vessel or the hour
of the train by which the applicant wishes to
leave. Applicants should apply in person for
their passes at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION
between the hours of 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. and
2 P.M. to 6 P.M. daily.

INTIMATIONS

THEATRE ROYAL.

THE HOWITT
PHILLIPS CO.

LAST PERFORMANCES!

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!
FRIDAY, Oct. 6th,
The Finest Comedy of Recent Years,
"PEG O' MY
HEART."

SATURDAY, Oct. 7th,
The Rollicking Farical Comedy,
"ARE YOU A MASON?"

MONDAY, Oct. 9th,
FAREWELL PERFORMANCE!
Owing to the Enormous Success
and by Special Request,
"A LITTLE BIT OF FLUFF"
will be repeated.

TIME and PRICES AS USUAL.
Booking at MOUTRIE'S, Telephone 527.
[1184]

PUBLIC AUCTION.
PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of
the letting by Public Auction, to be
held on TUESDAY, the 10th day of
October, 1916, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of
His EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, of One
Lot of CROWN LAND at Kai Lung Wan,
in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term
of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

One Electric Lighting Set, consisting
of High-speed Vertical Steam Engine,
etc., complete with Mountings and
Switchboard, Marine Multitubular Boiler
with Furnace, Boiler complete with all
Mountings and Feed Pump, One Hor-
izontal Compound Non-Condensing Steam
Engine with Pipe Connection Valve and
Storage Tanks, Several Double-Geared,
Screw Cutting and Surfacing Lathes,
Shears of Varying Lengths, 1 Planing
Machine, complete with Pulleys, etc., 1
Shaping Machine, complete with Shaft,
Slotting Machine, complete, 1 power and
Hand-Driven Screwing Machine with
Shaft and Miscellaneous Assortment of
Dies, Vertical Double-Geared Drilling
Machine complete, One Double Pillar
Geared Vertical Drilling Machine
(equivalent to two machines), by Appley-
ard & Co., Halifax, England.

One Double Column Steam Hammer
complete with all connections, One Belt
Driven Dranght Blower for Blacksmith
Shop complete with connections, One One
Washing Tank with Agitating Gear and
Shafting, etc.

Also,
Pulleys, assorted Belting, a large quantity
of Miscellaneous Material, Tools,
etc., Tubes and Piping, Steel Bars,
Wrought Iron, Steel and Cast Iron
Scrap.

A large varied assortment of Brass
Valves and Cocks, Brass Rods, Machine
Screws, Copper Pipes, Copper Plates, etc.

Sundry Office Furniture, etc.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)
On view from MONDAY, 2nd October.
Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers. [1186]

FOR SALE.
COMPLETE ELECTRICITY GENERAT-
ING AND STORAGE PLANT. Suitable
for works, factory, or town lighting.
For particulars apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.
[1220]

FRENCH LESSONS
10. MOUSSON,
15, MOHAMED HILL ROAD.
[1187]

INTIMATION

WATSON'S

FINEST OLD
BROWN
BRANDYE
QUALITY.

25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON &
CO., LTD.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 612.
HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOGES ROAD, C.
LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.
HONGKONG, 6TH OCTOBER, 1916.

THE RECENT PETITION.
It is impossible to read the correspond-
ence relating to the recent petition for
greater representation of the public on the
Executive and Legislative Councils of
the Colony without being struck by the
poverty of the arguments submitted to
the Secretary of State in opposition to
the desired reform. Even the GOVERNOR
is obliged to admit that "it is the
natural aspiration of Englishmen to
govern themselves," and to express his
sympathy with that aspiration. After
such a confession it would be only reason-
able to expect that His EXCELLENCY
would be eager to suggest some conces-
sion to the petitioners, such, for example,
as the right to elect the whole of the
unofficial non-Chinese members of the
Legislative Council instead of only one
half as at present. This surely could not
be regarded as a very "violent constitu-
tional change." Instead, we find His
EXCELLENCY exercising the utmost in-
genuity in resisting reform of any kind.
It is impossible in the space at our dis-
posal to criticize the GOVERNOR'S dis-
patch in detail, nor is it necessary for
us to do so, because that which is now
in it is not material to the real issue,
and that which is old is thread-bare.
Needless to say, the Marquess of Ripon's
objections to a form of self-government
for which nobody had asked was made
to do duty again, but a discreet silence
was preserved in regard to the fact that
his lordship was willing to introduce one
unofficial member into the Executive
Council, and that his successor, Mr.
JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, increased the num-
ber to two, besides adding another
unofficial member and the General Officer
Commanding to the Legislative Council.
Similarly, though the census returns of
1911 were quoted for the purpose of show-
ing the relative smallness of the Euro-
pean British adult male population—

which will compare not unfavourably
by the way, with some of the Parliamen-
tary Constituencies in the United King-
dom, and of much higher average intelli-
gence—attention was not drawn to the
proportion which signed the petition, in
all but a few cases without solicitation.
On the other hand, great emphasis was
laid upon the absence of four or five
well-known residents' names. The capi-
tal, however, which it was sought to make
out of this was discounted by Mr.
POLLOCK'S explanations of the reasons
offered by those concerned. In the
majority of the cases the objection was
raised that the moment for sending in the
petition was not propitious owing to the
war. The reply to this, of course,
is that nobody could say how soon the
war might end, and that it was advis-
able to safeguard the Colony against any
risk that its claims would be over-
looked when the Empire's Constitution
was in the crucible. In any case, how-
ever, absolute unanimity could not be
expected on this or any other subject,
and it is surprising that the abstentions
were so few. There are some,
no doubt, of opinion that the exist-
ing arrangement suits their parti-
cular interests as well as any other
is likely to do, and there are others who
are appalled by the "thin-end-of-the-
wedge" argument. The fact, neverthe-
less, remains that the general sense of
the British commercial community
strongly favours a greater measure of
public control, and we do not find any
attempt to deny this. No better example
could be needed of the desperate
straits to which the GOVERNOR was re-
duced in preparing a defence of the pre-
sent system than that afforded by his
allusions to the Hongkong General
Chamber of Commerce. In one breath he
describes it as "the most important and
influential commercial body in the
Colony" when he is pointing out that
its signature does not appear on the
petition "notwithstanding the fact that
it is upon its shoulders that the peti-
tioners would lay the responsibility of
electing in the future two unofficial mem-
bers of the Executive and four unofficial
members of the Legislative Council." In
the next breath he draws attention to the
smallness of its membership. That is
when he is criticising the proposal that
it should act as one of the two electoral
bodies. Incidentally, it would be in-
teresting to know whether His EXCELLENCY
believes that a resolution in favour of
supporting the petition was not submitted
to the Chamber for fear that it would
be lost, or because it was regarded as a
work of supererogation in view of the in-
dividual members who had already
attached their signatures. It would,
moreover, be instructive to learn why
the Chamber of Commerce and the
unofficial Justices of the Peace suddenly
became unsuitable for the functions
which for many years past they have
discharged without any disastrous result
to the Colony. With all due respect to
His EXCELLENCY we venture to think that
the combined intelligence of approxi-
mately 250 of the leading members of the
British community—one half of whom,
be it remembered, are selected by the
GOVERNOR himself—would be found fully
equal to the task which is now performed
by approximately 250 plus one. If, how-
ever, a wider franchise is demanded, pro-
vision for that was made in Mr.
POLLOCK'S covering letter to the Secre-
tary of State for the Colonies. Ad-
mitting, for the sake of argument, that
there is no adequate reason for "a violent
Constitutional change," we fail to see
that constitutes a good defence
against any change at all. Even if the
readiness of the GOVERNMENT to give
respectful consideration to the wishes of
the unofficial minority were as marked as
the GOVERNOR would have us understand,
it would not weaken the claim of the
public to elect that minority. We con-
fess, however, that we have failed to
notice any very pronounced tendency
"to overcome opposition by too generous
compromise." We have more frequently
seen measures carried in face of the united
opposition of the unofficial members.
If the present system works so perfectly,
surely it is strange that upwards of 600
of the principal British residents should
have expressed their dissatisfaction with
it. The truth is, as Lord Salisbury de-
clared, when discussing the Parliament
Bill in the Upper House a few weeks
back, "No Government can be trusted
unless it knows that it can, if it be-
haves, be called to account." In Hong-
kong the GOVERNMENT is practically free
to do as it likes.

Singapore has declared Hongkong a
suspected port for cholera.

The Fire and Marine Insurance Offices
will be closed next Monday.

Mrs. See, wife of the Chinese Minister
in London, has left for China.

The new French Convent at Cause-
way Bay is to be formally opened at 3.30
p.m. to-day.

The opening of the St. Paul's In-
stitute's new school at Causeway Bay is
to take place this afternoon at 3.30.

Mr. Denman Fuller's Piano Recital
will take place at the Peak Club on Mon-
day, October 16th, at 9.15 p.m., for which
date all tickets sold will be available.

A meeting of the Hongkong Licensing
Board will be held on the 27th inst. to
consider applications for licences under
the Liquor Consolidation Ordinance,
1911.

A Chinese broker residing at 7, Caro-
line Road, has reported to the Police that
on Thursday some person entered his
house by breaking a window and pushing
back the lock and got away with money,
jewellery, etc., to the value of \$300.

Among the passengers who returned to
the Colony yesterday by the P. and O.
Sardinia was Mr. J. Bentley from Shang-
hai. Sir John and Lady Wallis and
family, Mr. R. B. Gilchrist, Mr. and
Mrs. Alfred Goodrich, and Mr. F.
Stafford Smith are among the passengers
passing through the Colony on the same
vessel.

"Our Little Bit" Workers Society,
Kowloon, are forwarding the following
articles this week, through the kindness
of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co., to Mrs.
Eden, Jackanapes Work Society, 64,
Marlborough Mansions, West Hamp-
stead, N.W.:—3,304 bandage rolls, 77 bed
jackets, 36 suits pyjamas, 48 milk covers,
300 swabs, 33 flannel many-tailed band-
ages, 9 pairs socks, 4 collars, 2 mufflers,
and 1 box games.

CORRESPONDENCE.
THE SCIENCE OF ECONOMICS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG
DAILY PRESS."] 13

SIR,—Some rather slighting remarks
on "the science called economics" in
your leader of to-day seem to me less
judicious and well-informed than usual.

The article in question says:—"With
diffidence we write about the fluid state
of the science called economics because
the war has proved that it is speculative
and not exact. The high priests of the
cult persuaded most of us that Europe
could not possibly continue for more
than three—possibly, at ruinous after-
effects, for six—months, such a war as has
now been raging upwards of two years.
Yet to-day we are almost optimists about
the financial outlook after twenty-six
months of Armageddon, conducted on a
scale never dreamed of."

No economist of repute maintains that
economics is an exact science, like
physics, but only that it is more exact
than the other social sciences. If there
is a "High Priest of the Cult," I sup-
pose it is Professor Marshall, of Cam-
bridge, for the English-speaking world
at least. In Chapter II, Part I, "Prin-
ciples," he says, speaking of the possi-
bility of measuring economic motives in
terms of money, "This economist's
balance, rough and imperfect as it is,
has made economics more exact than any
other branch of social science. But,
of course, economics cannot be compared
with the exact physical sciences; for it
deals with the ever-changing and subtle
forces of human nature, and much more
to the same effect in Appendix O, 1-2.
As for being speculative, of course all
sciences are in large part speculations
about the relations of observed facts.
The theory of matter, of which you speak
in a preceding paragraph, is such a
speculation."

If Professor Marshall is the High
Priest of Economics I suppose the editor
of the *Economic Journal* is the Chief
Levite, but even he does not speak of a
war which cannot last more than six
months. In the *Economic Journal* for
September, 1914, in an article on "War
and the Financial System" August, 1914,
the following paragraph occurs:—"This
urgency for present goods is solid proof
enough of impending distress and poverty
in the present and the near future.
The world will be cold and hungry this
winter. But we must not argue from this
that we are raised for life, or sup-
pose that even a war of three years can
destroy, for the years which succeed it
the material benefits of the last twenty."

However much Mr. Keynes may have
underrated the reserve powers of pro-
duction in modern society, he does not
here suggest the impossibility of a three
years' war, and some other economists
were more optimistic. I am, Yours
faithfully,

"ECONOMIST."
Hongkong, 5th October, 1916.

THE GOVERNANCE OF HONGKONG.

(Continued from page 2.)

3. In the second place I would beg leave to mention that the first 28 signatures are those of representatives of important shipping, commercial, and financial institutions doing business in this Colony, as the following particulars will show:—(Here follow particulars.)

4.—Mr. Landale, the Hongkong head of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., and Mr. Shellim, the Hongkong head of Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., Ltd., as nominated members upon the Legislative Council, might not unnaturally have been expected to have some bias against the petition, but Mr. Landale informed me quite frankly that he was in favour of an unofficial majority on the Legislative Council and was generally in favour of the other objects of the petition, but that he thought that it would be an ungracious act for him to sign because the Hongkong head of Jardine, Matheson & Co. had always been nominated by the Government to a seat on the Legislative Council, without the necessity of any election, and that, by signing himself, he might be effecting in the above respect the position of future heads of Jardine, Matheson & Co. Mr. Shellim wrote to me that he was sorry that he could not see his way to signing the petition, as he did not consider the time opportune, but that generally he agreed with it and thought that it would have a better chance if brought forward at a more fitting opportunity.

Sir Paul Chater, who, as Mr. Chater, signed, in 1884, the petition to the House of Commons which asked (inter alia) not only for British unofficial majority on the Legislative Council, but also for freedom of debate and voting for the official members, expressed his unwillingness to sign any such petition now, on the ground that the time was inopportune because of the war.

Mr. Edkins, who is in charge of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire here, without committing himself to any definite view either for or against the objects of the petition, stated that it would, in any event, be impossible for him, as paid Manager of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, to sign any such petition without first referring the matter home to the partners in that firm for their decision.

Mr. Stabb, Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, stated his view that no change of any sort in the constitution was required.

With all due deference to Mr. Stabb's view I would point out:

(i.) That a former Chief Manager of that Bank, Sir Thomas Jackson, K.C.M.G. (then Mr. Jackson), signed the above-mentioned petition to the House of Commons in 1884, at a time when he had not only been Chief Manager of the Bank for 13 years, but had also had some personal experience himself as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council.

(ii.) That all the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank (except Mr. Edkins, who adopted a non-committal attitude as above stated) are in general agreement with the petition.

5. With regard to the suggestion that the present time is inopportune for forwarding any such petition (which suggestion seems rather like an echo of the utterance of His Excellency the Governor, in the Legislative Council, on the 29th December, when I first raised the question) I would beg leave to state that it is fully and clearly recognised that, under the war conditions at present prevailing, no definite answer can be expected to this petition until after the lapse of some months, but it is nevertheless earnestly and respectfully hoped that the consideration of this petition will not be shelved until the end of the present war, because it is felt that increased official representation on the Council is desirable before that time arrives, in order that a Government representative of the wishes of the business men of this Colony may be established for the purpose of dealing with any trade and shipping problems which may arise in anticipation of the close of the war.

6. I would also beg leave to draw your attention to the enclosed letter which I addressed to the four local British newspapers, enclosing a copy of the petition, in which, in consequence of suggestions made to me, I promised that I would bring to your notice, in the covering letter forwarding the petition, the desire expressed for a more comprehensive electoral body than the Chamber of Commerce or the Non-official Justices of the Peace.

I may add that it was deemed advisable to limit the signatories to those of British Race, and that no members of the Indian, Portuguese or Chinese communities have been asked to sign, though (as above stated) a few Indians and Portuguese have signed the Petition, presumably because they considered that they were interested as possible prospective voters, in their capacity of Jurors.

7. The Chinese Un-official Members of Council have not signed the Petition, (no Chinese being invited to sign, as above stated). In connection with this latter point, it may be observed that, if two additional Chinese Members were to be added to the Legislative Council, in addition to the 10 Un-official Members suggested in the Petition, the present proportion of Chinese Members to the rest of the Un-official Members would be preserved. It should also be noted that the present Petition does not ask, as did the 1894 Petition, for a British Un-official Majority, and consequently whether the number of Un-officials be 10, or be increased to 12 by the addition of two Chinese Members, it would be impossible to get an Un-official Majority otherwise than by the combined European and Chinese Un-official Vote. There would, therefore, be no risk whatever (as there might have been if the prayer of the 1894 Petition had been granted) of the wishes of the important Chinese community in this Colony being overruled by the vote of the British Un-official Members outweighing the combined votes both of the Official and the Chinese Members. The power of the Governor to suspend legislation and of the Secretary of State to vote it are additional safeguards to the rights of the native population.

8. I also enclose, for your personal articles by the four local British newspapers, on the Petition, when it was first published in the Press, and the comments of the leading British newspapers in Shanghai, the North China Daily News (as copied into our local Press) and also a leading article of the Hongkong Daily Press upon the documents connected with the Petition of 1894, which documents were sent by the Hongkong Government to the Press for publication, on the 25th January, 1910, apparently in the hope that they would adversely affect the signing of the Petition.

9. It is probably superfluous to point out that the solid Official Vote has constantly been employed for the purposes of voting down the Un-official Members, and their wishes, and I will content myself, therefore, with citing two instances from the Hongkong Standard for 1914:—

(i.) On the 23rd April 1914 (see p. 39 of Standard), the Motion of the late Mr. Hewett, in Finance Committee, in which he was supported by all the other Un-officials then present, for the adjournment of the Law Courts vote for one fortnight only, was defeated by the Official Vote.

(ii.) At the very next Meeting of the Council, on the 7th May, 1914 (see p. 47 of Standard), the Motion made by me for a Commission of 5 Un-official Justices to be appointed to inquire into the sufficiency in number, efficiency and organisation of the Nursing Staff at the Government Hospitals was defeated by the Official Vote, with, I may add, very unfortunate results at the present time, for:

1. The Government Civil Hospital is yet more understaffed than it was then for the carrying on of the ordinary work; and is in fact seriously understaffed in view of the annual recurrence of plague combined with cases of typhoid and other serious diseases; and

2. Sisters, who are due for leave and urgently require it after 4 years' work, are now unable to obtain it, and I may add that the difficulty of getting Nurses to come out to serve in the Government Hospitals in Hongkong is not in any way due to the War, for there is no similar difficulty experienced in getting Nurses to serve in Singapore and the Federated Malay States.

In making my Motion, on the above occasion, I said (see p. 44 of Standard): "I think it is very much to be regretted that in this as in many other cases the Government of this Colony has treated the Un-official Members in an adverse and hostile spirit instead of taking the Un-official Members into their counsel and co-operation."

One is, in fact, forced to believe that such almost automatic and decidedly arbitrary employments of the Official Vote, as are referred to above, most decidedly would not take place if the Un-officials were not in a permanent and hopeless minority, being unable by any possible means of persuasion or argument to obtain a majority of votes. In short, the Officials can defeat the Un-officials with neatness and despatch every single time, no matter how strong the weight of public opinion is behind the latter, and the so-called representatives of the public on the Council have no real power whatever to give effect to the wishes of the public.

10. I am forwarding the Petition with the original signatures thereto and a copy of this covering letter to the Colonial Secretary, here for transmission to His Excellency the Governor, and I am at the same time asking, and I submit that my request is a perfectly reasonable one, that I should be furnished with a copy of every Despatch of His Excellency the Governor and of the Hongkong Government to you, upon or in any way connected with the Petition, and of any enclosures therein, in order that I may have, in consultation with others, an opportunity of replying to such Despatch or Despatches and enclosures (if any).

With many apologies for the length of this letter, I am, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

H. E. POLLOCK.

[Enclosure 4 (A).]

Hongkong, 18th March, 1916.

SIR—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst. stating that you have sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies a Petition, with copy of the signatures thereto together with a covering letter and enclosures, praying for greater un-official representation on the Councils of the Colony, and enclosing copies of the documents with signatures to the Petition in original for the information of the Governor.

In reply I am to transmit to you a copy of Colonial Regulation No. 213 and to point out that your action in forwarding the Petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies direct is irregular and does not serve any useful object.

With regard to your request that all despatches from the Governor to the Secretary of State on this subject should be published, I am to point out that His Excellency has no objection whatever to that course; but since the correspondence will be addressed to the Secretary of State its publication is a matter for the Secretary of State to decide.

As a lawyer you will appreciate the importance in a matter of this kind of referring your quotations of opinions of Messrs. Landale and Shellim to the principal. I attach for your information the enclosed correspondence on the subject.

I am also to forward for your information correspondence with the Chinese Un-official members of Council on the subject of your statement that no members of the Chinese community were asked to sign the Petition, which I may here observe was deposited in various public places for anyone to sign who might wish to do so.—I am, etc.,

CLAUDE SEVERN, Colonial Secretary.

The Honourable Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.

In reply to letters of inquiry from the Colonial Secretary, the following were received:—

Hongkong, 16th March, 1916.

SIR—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, without any application for any sanction, has made use of my name in a manner which was not warranted by any conversation I had with him and has represented views which I do not remember giving expression to in a light favourable to his petition with a view of explaining the absence of my signature therefrom.

My personal views on the subject, dealt with in the petition, are not fully crystallized, and I thought I made it clear to Mr. Pollock that I could not support any changes in the Government here without first being given time to submit them to those I represent at home.—I am, etc.,

DAVID LANDALE, The Hon. Mr. Claude Severn, Colonial Secretary, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1916.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 14th March, No. 2003/1915, I have the honour to inform you that I am correctly reported in the passage quoted by you.

I beg to point out, however, that my letter was supplementary to a conversation I had with Mr. Pollock in which I expressed the view that some well considered concessions might well be made by the Government, but I did not consider the present an opportune time to raise the question. My letter should be read entirely with reference to such conversation, which did not refer in any way to the details of the petition or proposals which I had not considered and which it was impossible for me to study in the time then at my disposal.

I am emphatically of opinion that, at this stage of the Great War in which the Nation is engaged, it is out of place to bring forward a question of the nature of the petition.—I am, etc.,

E. SHELLIM, The Honourable The Colonial Secretary, Present.

Hongkong, 15th March, 1916.

SIR,—We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2003/1915 dated the 14th inst. enclosing a copy of an extract from Mr. H. E. Pollock's letter, etc.

In reply, we beg to state that Mr. Pollock had twice spoken to us on the subject of the petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and we suggested that we had better be left alone as we had heard no mention of the matter by the Chinese public nor had they approached us on the question.—We have, etc.,

WEI YUK, LAU CHU-PAN, The Honourable The Colonial Secretary, Prince's Buildings, Hongkong.

22nd March, 1916.

SIR,—Your letter to me of the 18th inst. did not reach my office till the 20th (on which day I was absent from the office) and I now beg leave to reply to it and to its inclosures, and I beg to request you to kindly transmit this letter of mine to the Right Honourable The Secretary of State for the Colonies, at the same time as you forward to him your letter to me of the 18th inst. and its inclosures.

2.—With regard to the third paragraph of your said letter I beg leave respectfully to point out that the request contained in my letter to you of the 9th inst. was not a request that all despatches from the Governor to the Secretary of State on the subject of the Petition should be published, though I should, if I may be permitted to say so, welcome such publication, but my request was, in fact, for something different, namely, that in justice and fairness to the Petitioners and their cause I may be furnished with copies of all despatches and of all inclosures thereto which are sent by His Excellency the Governor or the Hongkong Government to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies with reference to or in any way connected with the Petition.

3.—I am much obliged to you for forwarding to me copies of correspondence which has passed between Mr. Landale and Mr. Shellim and the Chinese members of Council and yourself and beg to say as follows:—

(1).—With regard to Mr. Landale's letter to you of the 18th inst., I adhere to and repeat the statements which I made in paragraph 4 of my covering letter, of the 9th inst., to the Secretary of State, because those statements are absolutely true. I may add that Mr. Landale never gave me to understand that he could not sign the Petition (of which I left a copy with him for perusal) without first referring the matter home, and that the only reason which he gave me for not signing the Petition is the reason which I have quoted in paragraph 4 of my said covering letter.

As Mr. Landale did not ask me to treat what he said to me as confidential, I cannot admit that there was any impropriety on my part in quoting him, or that there was any necessity for first obtaining his sanction.

(2).—With reference to Mr. Shellim's letter to you of the 16th inst., in which he seeks to qualify what he wrote to me by a previous verbal conversation, I beg leave to state that, at the only verbal conversation which I had with him on the subject, he asked me to leave a copy of the Petition with him (which I did) and told me that he would put his views into writing and send them to me, which he did on the following day, and he admits that I have correctly quoted to the Secretary of State what he (Mr. Shellim) wrote to me.

(3).—With regard to the Chinese members of Council, the question arose, while I was discussing a draft of the Petition with them, as to whether the Chinese should be included in the Petition, and the Chinese members said they had better be omitted. Accordingly, when the Petition was printed in its final shape and ready

(Continued at foot of next Column.)



"Gold Band" CIGARETTES

Should demand the consideration of every logical smoker

— REASON ONE —
Because the finest crops of Virginia leaf the American Tobacco fields produce are enclosed within its white coats of vegetable tissue

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ALWAYS RELIABLE.

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and from ALL WINE MERCHANTS.

GERMAN LIES BY GRAMOPHONE.

All imported gramophone records are hereafter to be censored (says *The Times* Petrograd correspondent) owing to the accidental discovery of large numbers of German origin whose actual contents, instead of being the harmless musical productions indicated on the labels, were found to consist of scurrilous anti-Russian lampoons, preposterous reports in Russian describing the military situation and the internal state of Russia.

for signature, I did not invite them or any of the Chinese to sign the Petition, which was not sent to any Chinese Club, Institution or Store. Moreover, the Petition expressly states, in its terms, that it is a Petition by "British Residents" and it was, therefore, not open (as you suggest in your letter under acknowledgment) for any one to sign who might wish to do so. The Petition of 1894, on the other hand, was, by its terms, open to signatories of every race.—I am, etc.,

H. E. POLLOCK, The Honourable Colonial Secretary.

RHODINE

RHODINE means acetyl salicylic acid of the purest quality. It is the equivalent of the German Aspirin and is as efficient if not more so than this last product for the same therapeutic purposes.

Each tablet contains 0.50 gramme of pure RHODINE. From 1 to 6 tablets a day may be taken, according to physicians' prescription.

RHODINE is a special remedy for acute rheumatism. If taken in proper doses, it will often cure and always alleviate headache, neuralgia, stomache pain, etc.; if those complaints find their origin in rheumatism.

It is very valuable in influenza, typhoid fever and in all kinds of infectious diseases attended by feverishness.

These tablets may be taken at any time, in a small quantity of water in which they will dissolve almost immediately.

Alkaline water, Eau de Vichy or water containing bicarbonate of soda, for instance, should be avoided.

OBTAINABLE AT ALL CHEMISTS.

PETER DAWSON'S WHISKY

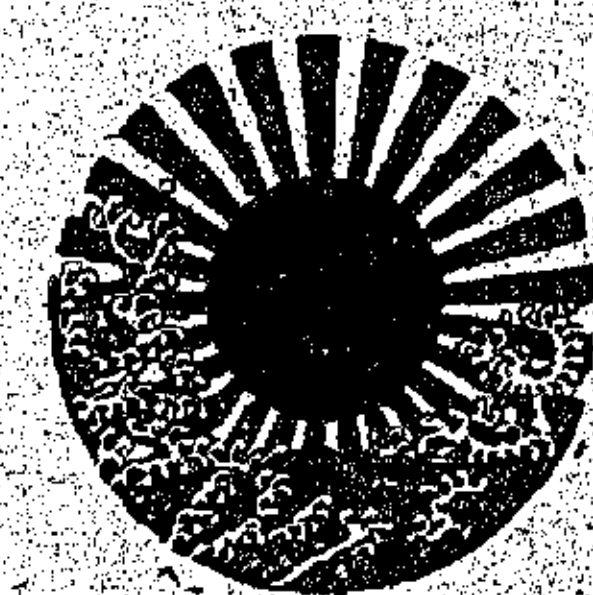
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[1203]

Grand Prize of Honour
Panama-Pacific International Exposition
SAN FRANCISCO, 1915



ASAHI-BEER
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[108]

THE UNITY OF FRONTS.

VICTORY IN SIGHT.

THE EFFORTS NEEDED.

[BY "THE TIMES" MILITARY CORRESPONDENT.]

A COMPARISON OF STRENGTHS.

In order that the combined attacks of the Allies should succeed against enemies holding a central position we must have superiority of force, first generally, and then at the decisive points. This superiority may be greater or less, according to the judgment which we form of the relative efficiency of all the armies concerned. But it must be marginally better for us, the greater our margin the better for us, for he who is strategically the assailant has usually to attack, and to attack is a costly procedure, as most of us know, although the costliness may be minimized, by such fine handling of artillery as that in which General Foch has excelled during his recent victories in Picardy on our right.

If we regard the strength of the enemy's armies and of our own, and if we estimate the probable residuum of the fit for drafting on one side and the other, we must certainly conclude that the wearing down of the enemy's man-power is not beyond our attainment, nor is so immediately far ahead of us as once it seemed and was. But our superiority in the field is not yet adequate, still less annihilating, and there's the rub. But a comparison of heavy guns on each side would not present conclusions quite so favourable, and it must be candidly admitted that, considering the superiority of force required by theory for armies on the offensive, the superiority of the Allies on the whole, respecting though it be, is not such a promising asset as a decisive issue, since it does not give us that annihilating preponderance which is necessary, other things being equal, for victory.

COMPARISON OF RESERVES.

The question alters when we consider the potential reserves on the two sides. Germany, in order to keep up the number of her divisions has had to reduce the number of battalions in each division from 12 to an average of 10. She does this to conceal the appearance of weakness and to bluff us all, but on our side the side is deceived. We know that it is evidence of falling strength. We in the United Kingdom alone still have 3,800,000 men of military age who do not yet form part of our armies. There are others in the Dominions, and there are vast untapped sources of supply in India and in Africa. Italy has ample reserves to keep her divisions going, no matter how hard the fighting, while from Russia's vast population many millions can still be drawn, and the difficulty in her case is not man-power, but arms. This difficulty is falling strength. We in the United Kingdom alone still have 3,800,000 men of military age who do not yet form part of our armies. There are others in the Dominions, and there are vast untapped sources of supply in India and in Africa. Italy has ample reserves to keep her divisions going, no matter how hard the fighting, while from Russia's vast population many millions can still be drawn, and the difficulty in her case is not man-power, but arms. This difficulty is falling strength.

Given continued effort and no great military disaster or internal convulsion before next spring, the eventual success of the Allies is assured, because, while the spirit and the determination of the Allies are at least equal to those of Germany, our population and resources are much larger, and into the balance must be thrown our naval superiority, with its grinding and demoralizing effects. We can fit our armies for 1917 and 1918 which must in the end crush the most frantic efforts of the disturbers of the peace, and, as we can last so long, or longer if need be, we can be satisfied with nothing but the complete satisfaction of our demands. We Allies must, further, end up such formidable military Powers, and so superabundantly provided with veterans and war materials, that, failing some gross negligence on the part of our Governments at the peace, Germany will never be able in our time to face us again. Our success, the accidents and surprises of war apart, being reasonably assured, and since time is with us, we have nothing to do but go on killing Germans, while avoiding rash adventures, bad tactics, and the strategy of the cinema. German, on her side, must desire peace, and her sole hope, or almost her sole hope, is to resist victoriously, and so to frighten our decadents and our weaklings by the price of our victories that we, from lassitude and cowardice, shall consent to a premature and unsatisfactory peace. Many soldiers in the Allied Armies firmly believe that the politicians will sell the peace in the end. They are certainly wrong, because, apart from all other considerations, such is the force of public opinion behind this war, so great have been our sacrifices, and so enraged are we all with the faithlessness and infamies of Germany, that the public would think nothing of taking all the members of a Government and hanging them in a row if they showed any inclination to throw away at peace the fruits of our stupendous efforts in war. The public have become hard as granite under the pressure of events. On this granite the Prussian has bitten, and no one shall save him from the consequences of his acts.

PEACE HABLE.

Let us not be deceived by all this Tom Fool talk of an early peace. We know in our hearts that there can be no peace worth having until the German armies are decisively overthrown and are left without hope. Let us admit to ourselves, and frankly, that, having still much to do before this result is attained, and above all, let us understand that neither in men nor in munitions have we yet attained to the strength necessary for a crushing victory. We should also recognize that, though our young armies have done right well, they have still much to learn, and that we are trying to troops still to some extent amateur, and improvised, to troops which will not all become thoroughly trained much before next spring, and have only done so well because the conditions of trench warfare have tempered the campaign to their imperfections, and because the German infantry, latterly, have not been the Kerntruppe of earlier days. Let us look into things a little more closely, behind the back of the community and between its lines, and understand that we were not so ready for this offensive on the Somme as we could have wished, and that

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

WAR NEWS.

THE WORK OF SPIES IN HOLLAND.

The *Echo Belge* learns from the "most reliable sources" that the capture of the steamer *Brussels* was the outcome of German espionage in Holland. German engineers, says the paper, were sent into Holland dressed as escaped Russian prisoners-of-war, and managed to get themselves enrolled among the crew of the *Brussels*. When Captain Fryatt was attacked by the submarine, these men rendered the machine useless, so that the *Brussels* was unable to escape. If this information is true, and there seems to be no reason to doubt it, it is to be hoped and expected that severe measures will at length be taken, and that the scores and scores of notorious spies in Holland will be expelled.

HAD THE U.S. BEEN THE CULPRIT.

The *New York Sun* gives prominence to the following frank letter from a correspondent:

No better evidence could be had of the lack of national unity, national spirit, and national self-respect among the people of this country than the reception accorded by the Press and the general public to the German submarine and its crew which recently arrived at Baltimore. To recognize the genius of its builders and the daring of the crew is most fitting; but to greet with enthusiasm and hospitality—a counterpart of the weapon which caused the wanton death of scores of our innocent women and children of the *Lusitania*, and for which crime, nay, murder, the Government, owning the machine has not been brought to book, is enough to dishonour and disgust any American with red blood in his veins and possessing a minimum of self-respect.

Had the "boot" been "on the other foot," and the United States Government murdered German innocents, without having made immediate and complete reparation, it is more than probable that war would have been declared against us quickly, or failing that, a visitor from us of the *Deutschland* type would not only have been denied clearance from a German port, but its crew would have needed police protection from the spontaneous and just wrath of a united and patriotic populace, whose God is not money and whose national spirit knows no bounds.

a general offensive along our whole line in Flanders and in France cannot successfully be undertaken until all our armies further north have the same proportion of heavy guns, trench mortars, and munitions as the armies on the Somme. Some hundreds of heavy guns have reached our armies since July 1st, but, taking all our armies together, and reckoning in men, guns, and munitions, we do not yet possess the annihilating numbers and armament which the Service Laws on the one side and the activities of Mr. Lloyd George and his assistants on the other promise us in the future.

Those of us who desired greatly that we should have 30 fresh divisions to throw into the field this summer have had to keep silence because compulsion came so tardily, and its effects march on with such leaden feet that it was early clear that most of this year was necessary to complete our existing effectives, which had fallen scandalously in arrears, and to prepare in advance the other necessary drafts for troops already in the field. Moreover, it was known that the provision of all the guns would not be completed until the beginning of winter, and to possess infantry without guns is not profitable now. General Foch told the writer the other day, on the Somme, that when given a mission he no longer asked how many divisions would be allotted to him, but only how many heavy guns. For this fighting we need, over and above the 18-pounders and the 4.5-in. howitzers, 50 heavy guns per division, and therefore the problem of the further expansion of the Army is not of personnel alone.

THE SOMME.

Critics are accustomed to hear themselves called pessimists when their shafts hit the mark. But they do harm when they run about, as many do now, asking what is the profit of our expenditure, and why should we not save up our armies for the offensive of next year, or the year after, or Heaven knows when. The profit has been, let us repeat, that we have compelled neutrals to understand that we are going to win, that we have killed many Germans which is the only known means of ending the war; that we have relieved Verdun, which was hard pressed; that we have thrown Germany everywhere upon the defensive; and that we have made an end of the shuttle-and-loom strategy of Falkenhayn, and have prevented the Germans from terminating the triumphs of our Russian Allies. But this we had to do, and who amongst us would have accepted the mission of going to Paris last June, or to Rome, and of saying that we were sorry, but on the whole we preferred to wait until 1917, when all our men under the Service Acts and our munitions from the factories had reached our armies in the field?

It is known, of course, that every politician thinks he knows all about war, although war is an art more difficult to excel in than any other, because its branches extend with indeterminate limits in every direction. Soldiers do not pretend that they can paint pictures, or regulate the financial affairs of the country, or preside over a court of justice, or discourse upon religion from a pulpit, or perform surgical operations; yet the politician thinks he can conduct more difficult operations than any of these, and he is for ever fuming and fretting and trying to interfere and run the campaign in spite of the fact that he had his turn during the early part of the war and plainly made the most appalling blunder of it.

Naturally it would have suited us and Russia best to wait and to get on with our building, but in allied operations it is the general good which rules, and those who look to one sector alone are in the old rut and are false to the principle of the unity of fronts.

TREASURY ROMANCES.

GIFTS OF ANONYMOUS PATRIOTS.

[BY JAMES DOUGLAS.]

The history of the war would not be complete without a chapter entitled "Voluntary Contributions to War Expenses." The materials for it are in the archives of the Treasury. They consist of dated, numbered, and annotated documents. Each of them records a free and spontaneous offering which has been gratefully accepted by His Majesty's Government.

In normal times men do not send gifts to the State. The war has created a new kind of citizen hitherto almost unknown, the Treasurer. He does not lend his money to the State—he gives it. This new citizen is sometimes a man, sometimes a woman, sometimes a child. He lives in all parts of the Empire and in all parts of the world. These, then, are the materials for the writing of Treasury romances. Shadowy romances they must be, for the shadows are vague, the passion in all the shadows shines clear. These gifts are the voice of our world-fellowship. They are not given to us. They are given to the ideal which we call the British Empire.

Merely to name the places from which they come would be a lesson in geography. There is romance in the sound of Sandakan, and surely it was romance that moved a firm in Sandakan to send £500 to the Chancellor of the Exchequer with this message:

In this territory we contribute nothing towards the Imperial finances, while at the same time we enjoy all the benefits of British protection. We are, therefore, anxious to have a share, however small, in the financial burden which our fellow-countrymen have to bear at the present time, and by disposing of the above sum for us you will be assisting us to discharge a welcome duty.

At Summit, New Jersey, an American citizen is found writing a cheque payable to the British Empire. From New Jersey to China, where we discover a husband and wife taking counsel together and jointly resolving to send a draft in four figures to the Motherland. From China we hurry to Canada, where we surprise a man writing a cheque for £200 "to cover moneys received by me whilst an engineer student at Keyham" nearly half a century ago. Then to Saskatchewan, where we look over the shoulder of an old man who is writing a cheque for £20 to help us to beat the Kaiser, whom he raptly portrays as "a compound of Nero, Judas, and Ananias." He remarks that "it is a small thing to invest in War Loan and draw a dividend when brave men are laying down their lives."

GIFTS FROM OLD AND YOUNG.

Many of these cheerful givers are old men. Some of them are poor. One of them writes:—

I see plenty about lending money to our country, but, as far as nothing about giving it. So here goes for a steady £10s. from an old man whose income is £20s. per week, and I hope to be able to send some more later on. This is mine own, as I have no debts. I want no coupons. Yours, Seventy Years of Age.

Even the children's mite twinkles in Treasury romances. It is properly classified, "Gifts from children towards war funds." Schools club together to pour their pence into the war chest. But in this Wonderland Alice sometimes scrapes together her own savings, and sends them to the Chancellor of the Exchequer with a letter painfully written in nursery hand. Here is a letter from Alice herself:—

I am sending you one shilling out of my pocket money to help to pay for the war. Daddy says you are collecting for it. I am seven years old, and I have two uncles fighting.

And here is daddy's footnote:—

This is entirely her own idea. Her one regret is that it is so little, but it has cleared out her money-box. Please don't refund it, whatever you do, or you will give great offence.

My lords did not return it. They intimated it "Thanked," and issued the command: "Prepare R.O. This, being interpreted, means 'Prepare Receivable Order.' The Receivable Order was prepared. The gigantic Treasury machine was set in motion to absorb Alice's shilling. Her name, remark, is not Alice. But it is a very pretty name.

There are many gifts from officers on active service. Some send a year's pay. Among the contributors from retired officers is one from a very gallant gentleman in a far country. He writes:—

I have twice applied to be taken in the Army Reserve, but have been refused on account of my hearing. I was a gunner officer for several years, but having been made deaf by gun-firing was thrown aside without a pension.

Perhaps out here we get a clearer view of the war than they do at home, for we just get the news without the pages of padding, and when one realizes the wonderful fight our troops are putting up and the glorious deeds of courage they are performing, it makes one feel sick to be cooped up here, and not able to help.

As my service has been refused, I hope my money will be accepted, and am therefore sending you what money I have in the bank.

The same spirit is visible in this anonymous letter from a working man:—

I am sending £20 10s. which I should like to give to the Government or anywhere else where it may be wanted. I thought of lending it as a War Loan, but I would rather give it. I know it is only like a drop in the ocean, but every drop may help us to gain the victory in this great war.

Many of the gifts are sent in the form of monthly donations. There is a man somewhere in Asia who has instructed his bankers to pay a certain sum to the Treasury every month till the end of the war. Some of the most magnificent contributions are hermetically anonymous. One is a gift of £5,000; another is a gift of £2,500.

There are many gifts from women. This letter came with a cheque for £100:—

I am one of the Women of England to whom your circular letter is addressed. I long to help my beloved country in any way I can, but I am very elderly, and there is

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

FAR EASTERN MEN AND THE WAR.

With regard to Lance-Corporal Henry F. Victor, Middlesex Regiment, formerly of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, the *London and China Express* says there is just a ray of hope that he is a wounded prisoner in Germany, according to late information.

Lieutenant W. N. MacL. Coppin, who went home from China last year to take up a commission in the 6th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, has been transferred to the general list and appointed a Railway Transport Officer—a billet for which he is eminently qualified. He was Traffic Inspector of the Chinese Government Railways when the war started.

Lieutenant George Reginald Stuart Layng, Gloucester Regiment, killed on August 18th, aged 20, was the third surviving son of the late Dr. Henry Layng, of Swatow, and of Mrs. Layng, of Eldorado-road, Cheltenham. He was married in 1913 to a firm of solicitors at Cheltenham. On the outbreak of the war he joined the Public Schools Brigade, and he afterwards received a commission in one of the battalions of the Gloucester Regiment. He went to the front last October.

"R.C.J." writes of the Rev. H. O. Spink, formerly of Kowloon, Army Chaplain Department, whose death we have already reported:—"It probably surprised none of those who knew him best that it was by being killed in action that Hugh Spink finished his career, as he would be sure to be found wherever the peril of his Lancashire was greatest. He was indeed a whole man, a fine athlete and accomplished gymnast, serious and sunny in such happy proportions that young men drew close to him spontaneously as to one who saw deeply into the invisible whilst remaining intensely human and sympathetic. His friends at Gipsy Hill who in his earlier days insisted on his forsaking a London bank for the Church's ministry, knew what they were about, and the men are probably to be counted by more than hundreds to-day in Liverpool, in China, and in France, who are in his debt for the saving and sanctifying of their manhood by the influence of one in whom body and spirit were to be seen at their very best."

V.C.'S AMUSING EXPERIENCE.

An amusing story is being told with reference to Private George William Chaffer, the smallest man to receive the V.C. Some little time before joining the Army he entered a tailor's shop in Rotherham to purchase a new suit of clothes, and was straight away led into the boys' department. Not only is he the smallest V.C., but he is probably the only one who has been rejected as physically unfit when seeking to enlist.

IT'S A BAD SIGN.

When you have that obstinate, lingering cough which will not be shaken off, there is no coughing any more, whether old or young, but what needs attention. A cough soon wrecks a strong constitution, soon makes one helpless, in fact a cough is a very dangerous ailment, yet many hardly notice a cough. The way to cure chronic coughs, bronchitis, and chest colds is to apply LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM.

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so little that I can do. I do not wish to make money out of this awful war. To me it would feel like the price of blood. Is it therefore permissible for me to send the enclosed, but decline to accept Exchequer Bonds in exchange?

Great is the patriotism of the poor. There is a golden letter from a Golden Doneyman which utters the very soul of the merchant seaman to whose valour in tramp and trawler the Navy owes much and the nation owes more. He unpacks his heart in wrathful words, with profuse apologies to the Chancellor for "taking the liberty of responding to his gentlemanly appeal" in his "poor unlearned way." There is a very heroic ring in his anger. "Sir," he writes, "I have just come back from hell. I mean, from amongst the dirty curs in the submarines. Then he strikes the professional note:—

I have the honour to have been in a ship which has brought 11,000 tons of meat from Australia, and I am going back for more very soon. Do not mind the grammar. Grammar does not count as a rule with gentlemen. I enclose a pound as a start.

Assuredly and emphatically "grammar does not count." The nobility of this Golden Doneyman ought to make all the German pedants blush.

The most touching gift of all comes from a poor old fisherman. His letter is a moving mixture of unconscious pathos and humour:—

As I was not able to answer your request owing to chronic catarrh in my head and rheumatism in my blood which has caused me much trouble.

I have two boys at home. They one has jaundice in his stomach, and the other's head is not right, going about talking to himself.

I am willing to help in any way I can and has given liberally to every charitable cause since I saw anything of charity.

I now send you a subscription of 1 pound, trusting you will get it all right, but I have no money for exchequer bonds and I would offer myself if I could be of any use so you may have one of them if you think they are of any use. This is a true statement.

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* TJILIWONG	JAVA & MAKASSAR	11th Oct.	14th Oct.	KOBE

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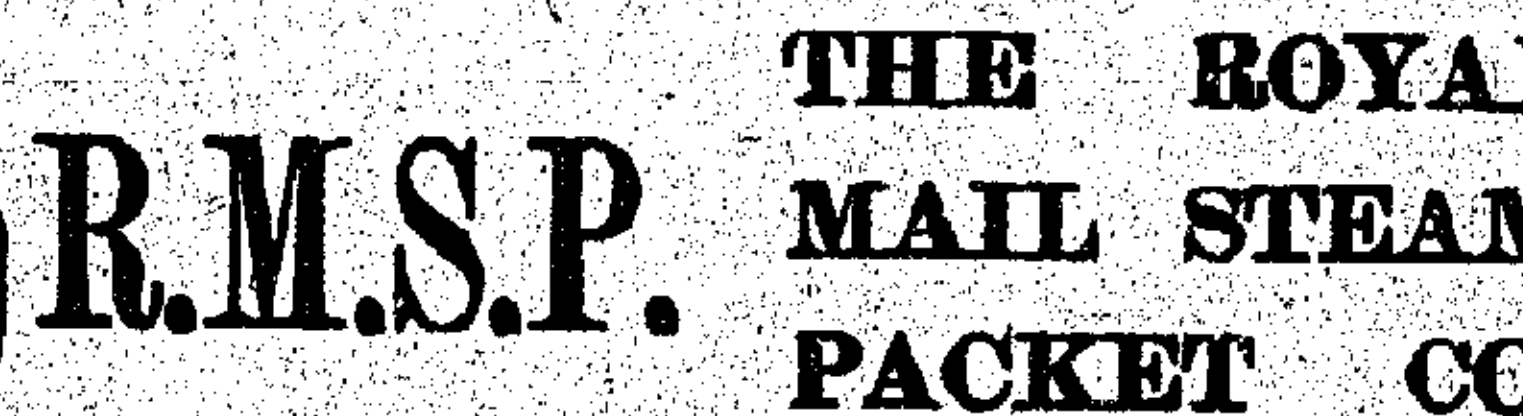
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TIENTSIN ... "KUEIHOH" ... On 10th Oct. Noon.
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SARDINIA	Oct. 6	Through Steamer	Nov. 9	Nov. 20
NOVARA	Oct. 20	Through Steamer	Nov. 19	Nov. 26
NORF	Nov. 3	Through Steamer	Dec. 6	Dec. 17
NYANZA	Nov. 17	"MONGOLIA"	Dec. 17	Dec. 24
MALTA	Dec. 1	"MALWA"	Dec. 31	Jan. 7
NANKIN	Dec. 15	Through Steamer	Jan. 17	Jan. 23
NOVARA	Dec. 29	Through Steamer	Jan. 31	Feb. 11
SOMALI	1917			
NYANZA	Jan. 12	"KASHGAR"	Feb. 12	Feb. 19
NANKIN	Jan. 26	Through Steamer	Feb. 28	Mar. 11
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	HIRANO MARU Capt. H. Fraser	16,000	THURSDAY, 2nd Nov., at Noon.
VICTORIA, B.C. and SEATTLE VIA SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SHIMIDZU and TOKYO	ISHIDZUKA MARU Capt. Noma	12,500	WEDNESDAY, 11th Oct., at Noon.
	KAMAKURA MARU Capt. Kawajima	14,500	TUESDAY, 31st Oct., at Noon.
SYDNEY and MELBOURNE VIA MANILA, BANGALUA, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNVILLE and BIRREBANE	NIKKO MARU Capt. Takada	9,800	FRIDAY, 13th Oct., at 4 P.M.
	SAKI MARU Capt. Yoshikawa	13,500	TUESDAY, 14th Nov., at 11 A.M.
CALCUTTA VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG and RANGOON	COLOMBO MARU Capt. Nomura	10,000	WEDNESDAY, 11th Oct.
BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE, MALACCA and COLOMBO	BOMBAY MARU Capt. Shinohara	9,000	THURSDAY, 19th Oct.
SHANGHAI, MOJI and KOBE	RANGOON MARU Capt. Kobayashi	8,000	THURSDAY, 19th Oct.
SHANGHAI and KOBE	KIRIN MARU Capt. Besshi	9,000	FRIDAY, 6th Oct.
NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	SAKI MARU Capt. Yoshikawa	13,500	FRIDAY, 13th Oct., at 10 A.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	KAGA MARU Capt. Tanaka	12,500	WEDNESDAY, 11th Oct., at 10 A.M.

EASTBOUND NEW YORK LINE
VIA PANAMA CANAL.

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NEW YORK VIA SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SAN FRANCISCO, PANAMA AND COLON.
S.S. "TAMMAM" ... Capt. T. ... THURSDAY, 21st Oct.
For Further Information apply to—
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SAN FRANCISCO LINE.

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JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to Change Without Notice

Steamer	Tons and Speed	Leave Hongkong
NIIPPON MARU	11,000—16 knots	TUES., 17th Oct., 10.30 A.M.
SHINYO MARU	22,000—21 knots	WED., 1st Nov., Noon.
SEIYO MARU	14,900—13 knots	THURS., 9th Nov., Noon.
SIBERIA MARU	18,000—18 knots	THURS., 6th Oct., Noon.
KOREA MARU	18,000—18 knots	FRI., 17th Nov., Noon.

* Via MANILA, Omitting Shanghai.

* Cargo only.

† Proceeding to South American Ports.

‡ Omitting Manila, and Shanghai

FIRST CLASS TO LONDON £71.10 RETURN (6 MONTHS) £120

" " " NEW YORK £60. " " " £96.10

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SEIYO MARU ... 14,000—13 knots ... THURSDAY, 9th Nov.

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FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	MAGELLAN	On or about 9th Oct.
MARSEILLES VIA HAIPHONG, TOURANE and SAIGON (Without Transshipment)	CORDILLERE	On or about 10th Oct.
		On or about 23rd Oct.

Subject to immediate alteration without notice

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HONGKONG (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

AMERICAN LINE.

FOR VICTORIA, SEATTLE AND TACOMA,
VIA SHANGHAI, MANILA, NAGASAKI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA and YOKOHAMA
"HAWAII MARU" ... FRIDAY, 13th Oct., at 3 P.M.
* Omitting Manila, Shanghai and Nagasaki. * Omitting Manila, Shanghai and Moji.

AUSTRALIAN LINE.

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE.
"NANKING MARU" ... FRIDAY, 27th October.

BOMBAY LINE.

FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE, PORT SWETTENHAM,
AND COLOMBO.

"LUZON MARU" ... TUESDAY, 10th Oct., at 7 A.M.

JAVA-LINE.

FOR MANILA, SANDAKAN, MACASSAR, SOERABAYA,
SAMARANG, AND BATAVIA

"SHIBETORO MARU" ... S. Yamada ... SUNDAY, 29th Oct., at Noon.

FORMOSAN LINE.

FOR TAMSUI, KEELUNG AND ANPING, TAKAO,
VIA SWATOW AND AMOY.

"KAIJO MARU" ... SUNDAY, 8th Oct., at Noon.

† Proceeding to Aomori, Tokyo and Tamsui.

‡ Proceeding to Tamsui, Keelung via Swatow and Amoy.

These Formosan Lines will arrive at and depart from the MOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office.

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STEAMERS	ARRIVE HONGKONG FROM AUSTRALIA	LEAVE HONGKONG FOR AUSTRALIA
EASTERN ST. ALBANS	2nd Oct.	On 11th Oct., 4 P.M. On 10th Nov., 11 A.M.

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